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intensity of the tone. The amount of rotation is measured by the deflection of a small mirror, as in a reflecting galvanometer. The tube in which the bit of mica hangs is closed at one end by a thin rubber diaphragm, and at the other by a piston, by means of which it can be adjusted to tones of different pitch. Cuts of the phonometer and curves representing the intensity of the tone of sounding pipes under different conditions are given, but the formulæ for exactly connecting the amount of deflection with the intensity of the sound have not yet been reached.

Esperienze sopra i corpuscoli Vater-Pacini del mesenterio di gatto.
FUBINI. Annali universali di Medic. e Chirurgia, Nov. 1887,
noted in La Psichiatria, An. V, fasc. 4.

The experimenter spread the intestines and mesentery of a chloroformed cat upon a warmed glass plate, and after the animal had regained consciousness, stimulated the nerves of the Pacinian bodies. He took the dilation of the pupils as an index of painful sensation, and used for comparison those produced by the stimulation of a nerve of general sensibility. After testing with electrical, mechanical, chemical and thermal stimuli, he concludes, from the similarity of the pupil reactions in the two cases, that it is to the nerves of general sensibility that the Pacinian bodies belong. Such a relation has before been conjectured, but it cannot be held as yet demonstrated, if this experimenter has been fully reported. The responses of the pupils are too indirect and general an indication to establish the identity of the sensations in the two cases.

Influence dégénérative de l'alcool sur la descendance. A. MAIRET and
COMBEMALE. Compt. Rend. CVI, p. 667, March 5, 1888.

These investigators, in prosecuting a research upon chronic intoxication in animals, have made a few very interesting preliminary experiments on the effect of alcohol on offspring. For the first experiment a vigorous and intelligent shepherd dog was given daily through a period of eight months, increasing doses of 72° absinth till he received 11 gr. per day per kilo of weight. This treatment produced hallucinations, illusions and dementia, with general paralytic troubles. When in this condition, but in a period when dosing was suspended, he was given access to a young, vigorous and intelligent female. She bore twelve pups; two were born dead, and none outlived 67 days. Three died from accident. The other seven suffered variously from epileptiform attacks, verminous enteritis, pulmonary and peritoneal tuberculosis, and besides, from lesions to be directly attributed to alcoholic degeneration—thickening of the skull, *sutures précoces*, adhesions of the dura mater to the skull, difference in weight of the two hemispheres, and fatty degeneration of the liver. The mother herself remained well. In the second experiment, a strong and intelligent spaniel bitch was given, during the last twenty-three days of gestation, from 2.75 to 5.75 grams of 72° absinth per kilo of weight. She first bore four pups, three alive and one dead, and, thirty-six hours later, two more dead. Of the three living ones, two were well formed but unintelligent; the third, a bitch, was less well developed, lazy, greedy, ungraceful in motion, short-winded, and too dull of smell to find her food in the